

XI. *On a Species of Tellina, not described by Linnæus. By William George Maton, A. B. F. L. S.*

*Read December 2, 1794.*

A SPECIES of *Tellina* which I have lately found, does not appear to have been described, and was probably never seen by Linnæus, nor has it ever been noticed by any English writer on Conchology. A figure, however, of this shell occurs in Gualtieri's *Index Testarum Conchyliorum* (tab. 7, fig. C C); but it has been referred to by Professor Gmelin, in his edition of the *Systema Naturæ* of Linnæus, for *Tellina cornea*, though it evidently differs from the latter in shape, which Linnæus considered as one of the most certain *criteria* whereby species are to be distinguished. Gualtieri mentions the shell to which I allude as "*Musculus fluviatilis, striatus, subflavus, pellucidus*;" which is a very vague and imperfect description, and by no means sufficient to shew in what respect it differs from *T. cornea*. From a view of the specimens which I have the honour to present to the Linnæan Society, and of the figures (37, 38), I hope it may be judged not inaptly described as follows, viz.

*Tellina (rivalis)* testa oblique subovata transversim fulcata cornei coloris.

Habitat in aquis dulcibus.

Testa magnitudine pisi, rudis, fulcis latioribus, anterius planiuscula,

cula, cardinis dentibus duriusculis, prominulis. Differt à *T. cornea* cardine versus extremitatem, nec ad medium testæ.

I have generally found *Tellina rivalis* on chalky parts of the bed of the river Avon, and in rivulets communicating with it near Salisbury; but I have never seen it in any considerable abundance, nor have I as yet heard of its being found any where else. There can be little doubt however, that, if diligently sought after, it may be discovered in most rivers and streams which are inhabited by *Tellina cornea*.

TAB. 13, fig. 37, represents the whole shell; 38, one valve, in order to shew the *cardo*, or hinge.

39, 40, represent *Tellina cornea*, in order that its difference from the former may be distinctly seen. These last correspond with *tab. 1, fig. 5*, of Lister's *Appendix An. Angl.* (which is referred to by Linnæus for that species), and with *tab. 7, fig. B. C.* of Gualtieri's *Ind. Test. Conch.*